

October 27, 2010

Arcuri's Opposition to Additional Taxes on Sugar-Sweetened Drinks Credited With Saving Nearly 126,000 Jobs in New York

Utica, NY- The American Beverage Association honored today U.S. Rep. Michael A. Arcuri (NY-24) with the Job Saver Award in recognition of his fight to preserve jobs in New York by opposing a tax on sugar-sweetened beverages in the last session of Congress. This proposal would have threatened jobs and stymied job growth in an industry that provides hundreds of thousands of good-paying jobs in communities across America. By opposing the tax on sugar-sweetened beverages, Representative Arcuri saved 125,491 direct and indirect jobs in New York alone.

Arcuri was presented the award by Jim Helferich, General Manager of the Pepsi Bottling Group in Utica, NY during a tour of the facility.

"In this harsh economic climate, saving jobs for New Yorkers is one of my chief concerns," **said Arcuri.**

"This tax would have been devastating to middle class working families who are struggling to make ends meet. Opposing the beverage tax was the right thing to do for my district, and I am glad that so many jobs were saved because of it."

"We are proud to honor Representative Arcuri for his commitment to preserving the jobs of beverage industry employees in New York," **said Susan Neely, President & CEO of the American Beverage Association in a released statement.**

"Rather than burdening our families and communities with a tax on sugar-sweetened beverages, we must strive for sound public policy that will promote job growth. The American Beverage Association thanks Representative Arcuri for opposing a discriminatory tax on our grocery carts."

In July of 2009, Arcuri sent a letter, signed by twelve other Member of Congress, to the Chairman and the Ranking Member of the House Committee on Ways and Means urging them to drop the beverage tax because of the unfair burden it would place on middle class working families.

The American Beverage Association is the trade association representing the broad spectrum

of companies that manufacture and distribute non-alcoholic beverages in the United States. For more information on ABA, please visit the association's Web site at www.ameribev.org .

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